

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Water-soluble salt tablets,~~ A water-soluble salt tablet comprising:

between 97.5% and 98.8% of NaCl, iodine, K ions, Ca ions, and Mg ions,

the ions being present as the chlorides and/or sulphates thereof, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein said tablets are formed from dehydrated granules having a particles size distribution between 0.8 mm and 1.1. mm and ~~in that said~~ wherein the Mg ions are present in an amount between 0.4% and 0.9%, the percentages being by weight on a dry basis.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Water-soluble salt tablets~~ The water-soluble salt tablet according to claim 1, ~~characterized by comprising:~~

between 0.3% and 0.8% of K ions,

between 0.4% and 0.9% of Ca ions, and

between 0.00053% and 0.0012% of iodine, the percentages being by weight on a dry basis.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Water-soluble salt tables~~ The water-soluble salt tablet according to ~~1 or 2,~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the same are of predetermined weight.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Tablets~~ The water-soluble salt tablet as claimed in ~~claims 2 or 3,~~ claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said salt is a natural integral sea salt for food use.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~A-The method for producing water soluble tablets of a food-grade salt, characterised in that a wherein the salt whose composition is as specified in ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, is subjected firstly to grinding treatment and then to dehydration treatment to give a salt with particles having a particle size distribution between 0.8 mm and 1.1 mm, metered quantities of the salt obtained in this manner finally being subjected to compression treatment between 160 and 180 bar for a time between about 3 and 4 seconds to form the water soluble salt tablets.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~A-The method as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that wherein said salt dehydration treatment is effected in a hot air stream at a temperature of between about 170°C and 190°C.~~

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~A-The method as claimed in ~~claims 5 or 6~~, characterised in that claim 5, wherein said dehydration treatment in hot air is by a fluidized bed drier fed with methane and with separate discharges for the spent air.~~